

THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

A Weekly Journal Devoted to the Best Interests of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County and the East Coast of Florida.

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TRIBUNE PRINTING COMPANY
PUBLISHERS

Office: O'Brien Building Telephone 42

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One Year (in advance) \$1.00
Six Months (in advance) .50

Advertising rates on Application

Entered in the Post Office of Fort Pierce, Fla., as second-class mail matter.

Published in the interest of the people of St. Lucie County—"Of the people, for the people by the people."

Address all communications and make all checks payable to THE TRIBUNE PRINTING COMPANY, Fort Pierce, Florida.

THE ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

On the first page of this issue is published the full text of a proposed ordinance granting an exclusive electric franchise to the St. Lucie Ice Company. The same was presented to the city council at special meeting Monday evening, and referred to a committee, composed of W. E. VanLandingham, F. E. Wilson and C. A. Killer, whose duty it is to consult with the citizens regarding any proposed amendment and with the company, and present the amended ordinance at the next meeting of the city council.

THE TRIBUNE believes in the principle of municipal ownership, and it is with regret that the immediate necessities of the city demand that a franchise for electric lights be granted a private company.

In granting this franchise it is the duty of the council to protect the citizens of the town in every possible way and we suggest that the special committee investigate every provision of the proposed ordinance with that end in view, and would suggest the following amendments:

Change the period for which the franchise is granted from 30 to 10 years; add section 11 to section 1 and incorporate in said section that if the city fails to take advantage of its option to purchase at the expiration of 10 years, the franchise shall be continued for another ten years.

A section should also be added making a maximum rate that the company can charge firms or individuals for lights.

Section 5 contracts with the company for 30 years to furnish twelve arc lights at a price of \$90 each per year. The price should be cut to \$75 and the term of the contract limited to two or five years. Section 6 is useless unless amended setting a period that a light must remain in one place, or specifying a price for making the change.

Who is to be the judge of Section 7? Does it mean that we are to have lights two weeks in the month, or does it mean that the lights will be turned on when the moon goes behind a cloud. The city is not protected at all, as the company is the sole judge as to when "the moon shall be bright enough to render electric lights unnecessary." While we have every confidence in the St. Lucie Ice Company, still, we do not know who their "successors or assigns" may be, and the interests of the city should be well guarded.

No doubt the committee will be enabled to submit amendments protecting the people that will be entirely acceptable to the company, and Fort Pierce will have electric lights before another winter season.

THE BONDING ELECTION

The result of the bonding election has been disappointing to a large majority of the people in the second, third and fourth commissioner's districts; more so from the fact that the issue was defeated by the stay-at-home vote in the Fort Pierce precinct. Practically every anti-bond vote in the precinct was cast, but more than forty bond men stayed away from the polls—some because they believed the proposition would be overwhelmingly defeated, and others for the unpatriotic, unpublic spirited reason that they did not want to take the time.

Patrick Henry on a similar occasion of public interest, declared that an indictment should be drawn against the whole people; and were such a thing possible, the effect of his words should apply to the stay-at-home vote of Fort Pierce. Ankona and Jensen precincts did nobly, as did also Viking precinct. The issue is not dead in the south end of the county, and could the election be held over again the result would be entirely different. It is probable that some steps will at once be taken to secure a means of getting hard surface rock roads in the three districts in the southern part of the county.

The first district is happy in the re-

sult, and they have substantial reasons therefor. They already have the best roads to be found in the county, and the Dutchman at the head of their road building will complete a road through the district in a few years, if not interfered with by the people, besides furnishing all the lateral roads needed.

The people have spoken; their will is law.

WHEN the new depot has begun to take shape; the contemplated extension of the railroad shop has been undertaken and the many new buildings that are now only in the minds of people, have all started to become a reality. THE TRIBUNE will issue a "Progress" edition, which will show in picture and text the progress this section has made in the preceding twelve months. The edition will also be devoted to every section of the county, and will be a credit to this thriving section.

LOCAL OVERFLOW

White and red Georgia field peas, for planting, at Van's grocery.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hancock, of Stuart, were visitors in town yesterday.

The ladies of St. Andrews' Guild were entertained yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. F. M. Tyler. A large attendance is reported, and a most pleasant afternoon enjoyed.

Moody W. Knight, an old-time resident of St. Lucie county, having lived at Fort Drum for many years, and at Vero the past three years, died at the latter place yesterday morning. Particulars of the death or funeral could not be had before going to press.

C. G. Wakeley, superintendent of the northern division of the Florida East Coast railroad, was in town the first of the week, and left Wednesday aboard the first Cuban pineapple train to pass up the road. The company is now in position to handle the Cuban crop in less time than by steamship, and expect big business.

We call attention to the change in the advertisements of W. J. Nesbitt, Fee & Stewart Company, W. R. Jackson and the St. Lucie Drug Company; also the new advertisements in this issue, of the "Dentos", J. A. Franklin and Dr. J. C. Davis. Each advertisement contains information for the benefit of each reader.

After a visit of several days in St. Augustine Rev. Father Curley left for his mission at DeLand. He spoke in glowing terms of that thriving city and with the highest praise of its citizens. He stated that he is completing the new Catholic church at DeLand which has double the capacity of the old one and will be a very handsome and artistic edifice. Father Curley, in addition to DeLand, has charge of the missions at Fort Pierce and New Smyrna. He will soon erect a Catholic church at Fort Pierce and is building a rectory at New Smyrna, so that his building activities have kept him very busy of late.—St. Augustine Record.

Representative W. R. Hardee, of St. Lucie county, has succeeded in having passed, unanimously, a bill prohibiting the use of seines or drag nets in the waters of St. Lucie, Brevard and Dade counties. The title of the bill is as follows: "A bill to be entitled an act to prohibit the catching and taking of fish with haul seines or drag nets, and to prohibit the use of haul seines or drag nets in all of the salt and fresh waters of the counties of Brevard, St. Lucie and Dade, situated within ten miles west of the Atlantic coast, and north of the waters of Biscayne Bay, and to fix the penalty for the violation thereof, and to provide for the seizure and destruction of all haul seines and drag nets used in violation of this act." Mr. Hardee has also introduced a bill amending the General Statutes relating to oyster beds and the exclusive right to plant thereon, which has been referred to the Fisheries committee.

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF TRADE

A meeting of the Board of Trade is hereby called to meet at the office of Judge F. L. Hemmings Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and every member is urgently requested to be present. The specific object of the meeting is for the purpose of considering a proposition to be submitted to the legislature, looking to the building of good roads. Other matters of importance will also be discussed. The citizens of the Third and Fourth Commissioners Districts are cordially invited to be present.

A. D. PENNEY, President.

Georgia syrup right from the home of the sugar cane, at Van's grocery.

STUART.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thompson spent Sunday in Eden.

M. B. Lyman, of Lantana, was a business visitor here Tuesday.

H. W. Richards erected a fine Aeromotor windmill for O. T. Kimball this week.

Mrs. Beville, of Fort Pierce, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. K. H. Bentel over Sunday.

W. E. Rea has moved into the house on Avenue D, which he recently purchased from Robt. McPherson.

C. W. Corbett and family, left Tuesday for Pinetta, Madison county, where they expect to make their future home.

Mrs. Lucy Hagen with her little daughter, of Palatka, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ball, for a few weeks.

Miss Emma Tucker began a series of evangelistic services in the Methodist church last night. She will continue these services throughout next week.

Henry Stypmann has purchased the R. A. Ledbetter property east of town. C. L. Coggin, who now has charge of this property will move his family back to North Carolina after the crop is shipped.

Stanley Kitching is building a two-story addition to his store to be used by Dr. Talley as a drug store. The doctor has leased F. M. Platt's residence and expects Mrs. Talley to join him soon.

Rev. Neil McQuarrie and Dr. C. E. Roberts of Key West, were here Friday in their house boat, Evangel No. 1. They expect to return about May 10, and become permanent residents, having purchased Mrs. Thos. Hogarth's property on the South Fork.

School closes today for the summer vacation. The assistant teachers, Mrs. Geo. Lyman and Miss Blanche DuVault, will return to their homes in West Palm Beach tomorrow. The principal, J. R. Pomeroy, after fifteen years of continuous service has decided to quit the profession and will devote his time in the future to pineapple growing.

The recital given in the hall Tuesday night by Mrs. Porter's class in elocution and Miss McPherson's class in music was a great success. Every number was as near perfect in its way and kind as it could be and the performance reflects much credit on both the instructors and the pupils. It only demonstrates again the fact that Stuart has much latent talent and that we need not depend on outside help to secure an evening's entertainment.

CHIEF J. C. MEREDITH EXPIRES IN MIAMI

Chief Construction Engineer J. C. Meredith of the Florida East Coast Railway extension, died at his home in Miami Tuesday a little after 12 o'clock. Mr. Meredith was taken ill last Saturday at his headquarters at Marathon. As the day wore away his condition became worse, and he was removed to his home in Miami. On arrival there, Dr. Skaggs, his family physician was summoned, a hasty examination made, and Dr. Skaggs, realizing the gravity of the case, sent for Dr. J. A. Jackson, Jr., for consultation, but the disease had progressed so far that medical aid was of no avail, and a little after 12 o'clock his spirit passed into the great beyond.

For more than a year Mr. Meredith has been suffering from diabetes, and for several weeks past he has been failing. By advice of his physicians and his employees he had arranged to leave in a few days for the North, hoping that a change might be of benefit to him. The funeral was conducted Wednesday from the Miami Presbyterian church.

As a mark of respect, every train and every wheel connected with the Florida East Coast Railway was stopped for five minutes, from 3 to 3.05 Wednesday afternoon.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

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Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsmen.

MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 25 F St., Washington, D. C.

Everything you want to eat, wear and use is found in this Store.

Spring Time and Spring Goods

Spring Time has come and so has our entire stock of Spring Goods. Of course a few small shipments will be constantly coming in, but if you need anything for spring now is the time to get it, and don't wait until everybody else has picked over the stock before you buy.

The Popular India Linon

We have the largest stock of India Linon we have ever carried, and the prices are very low this season, from 10 to 35 cents per yard. We also have Flaxon, the latest imitation of linen, at 20 and 30 cents per yard.

Misses' and Ladies' Oxfords

We are showing the nicest line of Ladies and Misses Oxfords we have ever shown. Prices from \$1.65 to \$3.50, in tan, patent leather, kid vici and a very attractive line of canvas goods.

Dress Goods and Shirt Waists

Our line of dress goods consists of almost anything you want for dresses and suitings.

A large assortment of shirt waists of many grades of material, ranging in price from 75 cents to \$6.

Hats for Ladies and Gentlemen

Besides our extremely large stock of millinery, we have a large assortment of outing hats for ladies and gentlemen; men and boy's felt hats and an unusually large stock of straw and cloth goods.

Shirts and Underwear

Don't forget that Cobb makes a specialty of work shirts, dress shirts and all kinds of underwear.

Mosquito Canopies Get ready for the bugs by getting canopies, mosquito bars, and window and door screening.

P. P. COBB

Everything you want to eat, wear and use is found in this Store

JACKSON'S STOCK-CLEARING SALE

Don't forget that every day next week is bargain day at the furniture store. We must have more room in the store so we can take stock the first of May, and the blue pencil has plaid havoc with prices here. If there is anything you need in furniture or house furnishings, don't let this opportunity pass without buying what you need while you can buy what you want so cheap. Such bargains as we are offering will never be presented to you again in Fort Pierce.

The store will be closed Monday, April 26th, until noon, to give us time to arrange a display of some of the bargains that will be offered. We haven't much display space, but will utilize what we have. Don't take our word about the bargains, come and see for yourself and you will be convinced that every article is a money-saver. We can't tell all about the prices in a small advertisement; you must see them, then you can appreciate their value. Be sure and come, it will be time and money well spent.

W. R. JACKSON. THE FURNITURE MAN
FORT PIERCE, St. Lucie County FLORIDA.